

*AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION*

Replace the paragraph on page 1, immediately after the title (and what was added by way of the "Preliminary Amendment" dated August 27, 2003) with:

This patent application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. ~~appl. no.~~ 09/600,826 filed September 7, 2000, issued as U.S. Patent 6,770,742, which is the U.S. national phase of PCT/EP99/00405 filed January 22, 1999, ~~which claims priority to DE 19802377.4, filed January 22, 1998~~, all of which are hereby incorporated by reference.